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GOVERNMENT REPORT

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CITIZENS FOR REGIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS
in the San Francisco Bay Area
126 Post Street
Room 607
San Francisco, Calif. 94108

November 15, 1967

Bay Conservation and Development Commission
507 Polk Street
San Francisco, California

Re: Government Proposals

Gentlemen:

Our organization supports the staff's proposed conclusion (Conclusions 6 and 7) favoring a multipurpose Government Agency in the Bay Area. Conserving the Bay is directly related to other regional functions and it is unwise to split up those functions among numerous, sometimes competing agencies. In particular, we believe that providing for the Bay Area's open space needs is a function that belongs in the same agency which carries out BCDC's Plan for the Bay. We point this out because we understand that the staff was questioned at the last BCDC meeting as to what assignments are compatible with the agency that will carry out the BCDC Plan for the Bay and the Shoreline.

ABAG's "Preliminary Regional Plan" states that "the major elements of the Bay Region's permanent open space should include major ridges, the Bay, major water courses, the ocean shoreline, selected Bay and River Shoreline, areas of outstanding natural attraction and areas especially suited for Park and Recreation use." The Bay is, after all, one of many open spaces in the Bay Area which merit conservation and protection. Wise planning will tie the protection of land areas to Bay shoreline areas where that is appropriate, and thereby enhance the attractiveness and usefulness of both. The ABAG Plan takes note of this relationship; for example, it calls for protection of the East Bay Hills from the shoreline at Point Pinole near Richmond to Castro Valley.

We also support direct election of Board members.

We hope these comments will be helpful in BCDC's deliberations on Governmental Studies.

Very truly yours,

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/s/
Gary Thurlow, Chairman
Regional Government Committee

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